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City of Barrie

Final

International Relations Committee

Tuesday, May 30, 2023 | **5:30 PM** | **Council Chambers**

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
For consideration by the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee on September 27, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Councillor, J. Harris at 5:36 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 11 - Co-Chair – Councillor J. Harris
Co-Chair M. Sachkiw
C. Hassey
W. Hay
A. Jones
J. Massie
L. Palson
J. M. Pigeon
B. Sergeant
S. Scully-Pratt
K. Watson

Absent: 2 - J. Babcock
T. Gardiner

STAFF:
Deputy City Clerk, T. McArthur
Legislative Coordinator, T Maynard.

The International Relations Committee met and reports as follows:

COMMITTEE ORIENTATION

Tara McArthur Deputy City Clerk provided a presentation regarding an Orientation for the 2022 to 2026 Committee Members.

Ms. McArthur discussed slides concerning the following topics:

- The Council and Committee Member Code of Conduct;
- The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act;
- The City of Barrie Procedural By-law;
- An overview of meeting procedures:
  - The basics of Parliamentary Law; and
  - The role of the Chair, Committee Members and the Legislative Coordinator.
- The decision making process; and
- The reporting structure of the International Relations Committee

Members of Committee asked a number of questions of Ms. McArthur and received responses.

The Committee discussed reviewing their terms of reference, preparing a work plan and looking at opportunities for new international partnerships.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The Committee met and discussed the meeting schedule for the 2022 - 2026 term and determined that the Committee would meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. with the exception of July and August unless otherwise needed.

YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

Shannon Scully-Pratt and Mark Sachkiw provided an update concerning the Youth Ambassadors Program. The Committee asked a number of questions related to the Youth Ambassadors program.

Ms. Scully-Pratt discussed the selection process for the 2023 Japan youth delegation, and that two adult chaperones have been selected to travel to Murayama, Japan in August, 2023.

Councillor, J. Harris mentioned that the previous International Relations Committee has legacy projects and commitments to be carried forward to the new Committee related to the twinning relationships.

The Committee will discuss their goals and objectives at a future meeting.

The Committee approved an expenditure of funds from the International Relations Committee budget up to $5,000 for airfare travel for two adult chaperones to escort a youth delegation from the City of Barrie to Murayama, Japan between August 16, 2023 to August 30, 2023.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES PROGRAM

An update on the Global Perspectives Program was provided by Tammie Maynard, Legislative Coordinator on behalf of Jamie Babcock.

Ms. Maynard advised that a student delegation from the 2023 Global Perspectives Program is visiting Zweibrücken, Germany, and are having a great time. Ms. Maynard mentioned that students have been selected to participate in the 2024 Global Perspectives Program.

ZWEIBRUCKEN, GERMANY

Jean Maurice Pigeon provided a historical background of the City's twinning relationship and Royal Canadian Air Force deep military ties with Zweibrücken, Germany.

Leslie Palson of Georgian College discussed that the college hosted a student delegation from Germany, and the college is looking at opportunities to incorporate post secondary education in Germany.

Bill Sergeant acknowledged Jean Maurice Pigeon for his years of service promoting the municipalities twinning relationship with Zweibrücken, Germany.

HARROGATE, UNITED KINGDOM

Bill Sergeant provided a historical background on the municipality's twinning and Canadian military relationships with Harrogate, United Kingdom and Barrie's namesake Sir Robert Barrie.

Mr. Sergeant advised that Michael Newby and Michael Chapman from Harrogate, United Kingdom will be visiting the City of Barrie to commemorate Sir Robert Barrie Day on June 7, 2023 and to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the twinning relationship between the two municipalities. He provided an outline of the itinerary for delegations visit in June, 2023.

Mark Sachkiw, Co-Chair provided comments on the replacement of the Harrogate flags for the City of Barrie.

The Committee approved the expenditures of funds from the International Relations Committee budget up to $730.00 to purchase replacement Harrogate, United Kingdom flags for use by the City of Barrie.

The Committee approved the expenditures of funds from the International Relations Committee budget up to $3,000.00 for hosting two guests from Harrogate, United Kingdom in June 2023.

Bill Sergeant advised that a rugby sports team from Harrogate, United Kingdom will be visiting the City of Barrie between July 26, 2023 and August 3, 2023, and during their visit they will be playing games with the local rugby sports teams. Mr. Sergeant provided an outline of the itinerary for the rugby sports team. He advised that Harrogate rugby team members are being billeted by local families.

The Committee approved an expenditure of funds from the International

Relations Committee budget up to $20,000.00 to host a rugby team from Harrogate, United Kingdom between July 26, 2023 to August 3, 2023.

MURAYAMA, JAPAN

Mark Sachkiw, Co-Chair provided an update concerning Murayama, Japan. He advised that a number of citizen and youth exchanges have taken place between the two municipalities during the past years.

ARRAS, FRANCE

Mark Sachkiw provided a historical background of the municipalities twinning relationship with Arras, France.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

CHAIRMAN